



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5293

February Session, 2022



AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMALS IN TRAVELING ANIMAL ACTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) (a) No person shall cause a
2 performance of or allow for the participation of an exotic or wild animal
3 in a traveling animal act. The provisions of this subsection shall not be
4 construed to apply to: (1) An exhibition at a nonmobile, permanent
5 wildlife sanctuary or institution, facility, zoo or aquarium accredited by
6 the Association of Zoos and Aquariums or the Global Federation of
7 Animal Sanctuaries; (2) any environmental education program
8 administered by any entity (A) accredited by the Association of Zoos
9 and Aquariums, (B) engaged in falconry in accordance with the
10 provisions of section 26-67e of the general statutes, or (C) permitted by
11 the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection pursuant to
12 any provision of the general statutes, provided any animal used for such
13 purpose pursuant to this subdivision shall not be used for more than six
14 months in any year for such purpose and shall not be kept in a mobile
15 or traveling housing facility for more than twelve hours of any day; and
16 (3) any university, college, laboratory or other research facility that
17 holds a class C exhibitor's license issued by the United States
18 Department of Agriculture pursuant to 7 USC 54 and that possesses its
19 most recent inspection report from the United States Department of

20 Agriculture.

21 (b) Any person who wilfully violates any provision of this section
22 shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

23 (c) For the purposes of this section, (1) "cause a performance" means
24 to be responsible for a performance or to financially benefit as the
25 owner, operator or sponsor of a performance; (2) "environmental
26 education program" means any animal exhibition that is professionally
27 designed to impart knowledge or information for educational or
28 conservation purposes about an animal's behavior, habitat or life cycle
29 and that is conducted by an individual who is qualified to impart such
30 knowledge and which does not include any performance of a behavior
31 by such animal that does not occur in such animal's wild state; (3) "exotic
32 or wild animal" means any Canidae other than a domestic dog,
33 cetartiodactyla, crocodilian, elasmobranchii, Felidae other than a
34 domestic cat, marsupialia, nonhuman primates, perissodactyla other
35 than a domestic horse, pony, donkey or mule, pinnipedia, probocidea,
36 ratites, spheniscidae or Ursidae; (4) "mobile or traveling housing
37 facility" means any transporting vehicle such as a truck, car, trailer,
38 airplane, ship or railway car that is used to transport or house animals
39 while traveling to, from or between locations for performance purposes;
40 (5) "performance" means any circus, carnival, display, exhibition,
41 exposition, fair, fight, parade, petting zoo, race, ride or trade show
42 where an exotic or wild animal performs tricks, gives rides or
43 accompanies any person engaged in amusement or entertainment for an
44 audience; (6) "traveling animal act" means any performance of exotic or
45 wild animals where such animals are transported to, from or between
46 locations in a mobile or traveling housing facility for the purposes of
47 such performance; and (7) "wildlife sanctuary" means any organization
48 that is recognized as a wildlife sanctuary under the Internal Revenue
49 Code for the care of abused, neglected or displaced exotic or wild
50 animals and that does not engage in the commercial trade of any exotic
51 or wild animal or exotic or wild animal part or conduct entertainment
52 or interaction events for the public and that does not breed such exotic

53 or wild animals.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*